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Agenda item 52

Groups of countries in special situations

Report of the Second Committee*

Rapporteur: Mr. Awsan **Al-Aud** (Yemen)

1. At its 2nd plenary meeting, on 19 September 2008, the General Assembly, on the recommendation of the General Committee, decided to include in the agenda of its sixty-third session the item entitled:

> "Groups of countries in special situations:
>
> "(a) Third United Nations Conference on the Least Developed Countries;
>
> "(b) Specific actions related to the particular needs and problems of landlocked developing countries: outcome of the International Ministerial Conference of Landlocked and Transit Developing Countries and Donor Countries and International Financial and Development Institutions on Transit Transport Cooperation"

and to allocate it to the Second Committee.

2. The Second Committee held a substantive debate on the item at its 23rd and 24th meetings, on 3 and 4 November 2008. An account of the Committee's discussion of the item is contained in the relevant summary records (A/C.2/63/SR.23 and 24). Attention is also drawn to the general debate held by the Committee at its 2nd to 6th meetings, from 6 to 8 October (see A/C.2/63/SR.2-6). An account of the Committee's further consideration of the item will be provided in the addenda to the present report.

3. For its consideration of the item, the Committee had before it the following documents:

* The report of the Committee on this item is being issued in three parts, under the symbol A/63/417 and Add.1 and 2.

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Item 52
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Letter dated 3 October 2008 from the representative of Antigua and Barbuda to the Secretary-General, transmitting the Ministerial Declaration adopted by the Ministers for Foreign Affairs of the Group of 77 and China at their thirty-second annual meeting, held at United Nations Headquarters on 26 September 2008 (A/63/464)

Item 52 (a)
Third United Nations Conference on the Least Developed Countries

Report of the Secretary-General on the implementation of the Programme of Action for the Least Developed Countries for the Decade 2001-2010 (A/63/77-E/2008/61)

Note by the Secretary-General on an outline of the modalities of the Fourth United Nations Conference on the Least Developed Countries and its preparatory process (A/63/284)

Letter dated 17 November 2008 from the representative of Bangladesh to the Secretary-General (A/C.2/63/8)

Item 52 (b)
Specific actions related to the particular needs and problems of landlocked developing countries: outcome of the International Ministerial Conference of Landlocked and Transit Developing Countries and Donor Countries and International Financial and Development Institutions on Transit Transport Cooperation

Report of the Secretary-General on the implementation of the Almaty Programme of Action: Addressing the Special Needs of Landlocked Developing Countries within a New Global Framework for Transit Transport Cooperation for Landlocked and Transit Developing Countries (A/63/165)

Outcome document of the midterm review of the Almaty Programme of Action: Addressing the Special Needs of Landlocked Developing Countries within a New Global Framework for Transit Transport Cooperation for Landlocked and Transit Developing Countries (resolution 63/2)

4. At the 23rd meeting, on 3 November, the High Representative for the Least Developed Countries, Landlocked Developing Countries and Small Island Developing States made an introductory statement (see A/C.2/63/SR.23).

5. At the same meeting, the High Representative made statements in response to questions and comments posed by the representatives of Benin and the Sudan.